



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

M60050_003610
MCAS EL TORO
SSIC NO. 5090.3.A

May 15, 2003

Mr. F. Andrew Piszkin
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Base Realignment and Closure
Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro
7040 Trabuco Road
Irvine, CA 92618

Re: IRP Site 2 Aquifer Test, MCAS El Toro


Dear Mr. Piszkin:

The purpose of this letter is communicate EPA's concerns about the data that has been collected during the IRP Site 2 aquifer test. In looking at the most recent memo provided (dated April 30, 2003), we continue to have doubts about the usefulness of the data in achieving the primary goal of the work plan. The goal stated in the workplan was to "...gather data that will allow the Navy to select the groundwater remedy for IRP Site 2".

The Navy's goal is to collect data to support selection of a remedy and a design. With the data presented thus far, EPA is not sure how the Navy will have sufficient information to design a groundwater remedy. Our primary concerns are that the extent of TCE and perchlorate contamination are not known, and that pumping monitoring wells is not yielding relevant extraction design data.

Our team is available to discuss this further at the next BCT meeting, either May 28 or 29, if the Navy would like to add Site 2 as an agenda item.

Sincerely,


Nicole Moutoux
Project Manager
Federal Facilities Cleanup Branch

cc: Gordon Brown, SWDIV
John Broderick, RWQCB
Rafat Abbasi, DTSC
Herb Levine, EPA
Dave Murchison, DTSC